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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **sHB 5388**

#### ***AN ACT REQUIRING CITIES AND TOWNS TO DESIGNATE A VETERANS' SERVICE CONTACT PERSON.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill requires any municipality that does not (1) have a local veterans' advisory committee or (2) fund a veterans' service officer to designate an employee or a representative from a regional planning organization to be its veterans' service contact person. It specifies the contact persons duties.

The bill also requires the Department of Veterans' Affairs' Veterans' Advocacy and Assistance Unit to conduct a training course annually for such contact persons and requires the contact persons to complete that course.

The bill makes conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

#### **VETERANS' SERVICE CONTACT PERSON'S DUTIES**

Under the bill, the contact person must:

1. coordinate all matters concerning veterans and their dependents;
  2. coordinate public and private facilities concerned with veterans' reemployment, education, rehabilitation, and adjustment to peacetime living;
  3. cooperate with all national, state, and local government and private agencies in securing services and benefits to which a veteran or his or her dependents may be entitled;
  4. encourage and coordinate veterans' vocational training services;
- and

5. work with veterans organizations as much as possible to carry out these activities.

Currently, local veterans' advisory committees must do these activities.

### **REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

By law, a regional planning organization is a regional council of governments, a regional council of elected officials, or a regional planning agency.

### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference  
Yea 14 Nay 0 (03/12/2013)

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute  
Yea 19 Nay 0 (04/01/2013)